IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended) A method for obtaining hardware resources in a system, said method comprising the steps of:

obtaining additional hardware resources from available resources which have not been obtained in the system, for a resource usage type of a hardware resource obtaining request, when each use rate of obtained hardware resources exceeds a predetermined threshold in that the obtained hardware resources, have been obtained and a resource usage type of each of the obtained hardware resources is identical with a resource usage type of the hardware resource obtaining request,

wherein the resource usage type indicates a guarantee type to data errors.

2. (currently amended) An apparatus for obtaining hardware resources in a system, said apparatus comprising:

a comparing part comparing a predetermined threshold with a use rate for each of a plurality of obtained hardware resources, and which resource usages are in which a resource usage type of each of the obtained hardware resources is identical with a resource usage type of a hardware resource obtaining request; and

an obtaining part obtaining additional hardware resources from available resources which have not been obtained in the system, for the resource usage of the hardware resource obtaining request, when each use rate of the obtained hardware resources exceeds the predetermined threshold to satisfy further hardware resource obtaining requests which indicate the same resource usage type at a time the predetermined threshold is exceeded.

- 3. (previously presented) The apparatus as claimed in claim 2, further comprising: a securing part securing some of the available hardware resources so as to obtain at least one of the available hardware resources for each of a plurality of resource usages.
- 4. (previously presented) The apparatus as claimed in claim 2, further comprising: an obtaining-to-use part obtaining a part of an unused area of the obtained hardware resources in a condition in which each resource usage of the obtained hardware resources is identical with the resource usage of said hardware resource obtaining request and each use rate of the obtained hardware resources exceeds the predetermined threshold.
- 5. (previously presented) The apparatus as claimed in claim 2, further comprising: a threshold setting part dynamically setting a threshold of said each resource usage based on the use rate of said each resource usage of the obtained hardware resources in the system
- 6. (previously presented) The apparatus as claimed in claim 2, further comprising: a given threshold setting part setting a given threshold to the threshold of said each resource usage of the obtained hardware resources in the system.
- 7. (currently amended) An apparatus for obtaining hardware resources, said apparatus comprising:
- a first selecting-to-use part selecting one obtained hardware resource having a least use rate in obtained hardware resources in a condition in which each resource usage type of the

Page 4 of 9

obtaining request; and

a using part using a part of an unused area of said one obtained hardware resource selected by said first selecting-to-use part to satisfy further hardware resource obtaining requests which indicate the same resource usage type until a time that a predetermined threshold has been exceeded.

- 8. (previously presented) The apparatus as claimed in claim 7, further comprising: a threshold setting part dynamically setting a threshold of said each resource usage based on the use rate of said each resource usage of the obtained hardware resources in the system[[.]].
- 9. (previously presented) The apparatus as claimed in claim 8, further comprising: a priority setting part setting a priority of each resource usage based on the use rate of said each resource usage of the obtained hardware resources in the system.
- 10. (currently amended) An apparatus for obtaining hardware resources, said apparatus comprising:

a second selecting-to-use part selecting one obtained hardware resource which has a use rate being less than an [[a]] upper limit and has a largest resource, from obtained hardware resources that have been obtained in a condition in which each resource usage type of the obtained hardware resources is identical with a resource usage type of a hardware resource obtaining request; and

a using part using a part of an unused area of said one obtained hardware resource selected by said second selecting-to-use part the unused area is an area which is available to use in the obtained hardware resources, in which each resource usage type of the obtained hardware resources is identical with a resource usage type indicated by the hardware resource obtaining request.